

By: White

H.B. No. 1478

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to emergency placements of children by the Department of Family and Protective Services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 42, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 42.0533 to read as follows:

Sec. 42.0533. EMERGENCY PLACEMENT. (a) In this section, "emergency placement" means the temporary placement of a child in a foster home, foster group home, agency foster home, or agency foster group home for less than 72 hours.

(b) The department and each child-placing agency with whom children in the managing conservatorship of the department are placed shall identify and compile a list of all licensed foster homes and foster group homes or verified agency foster homes and agency foster group homes that are able to accept the emergency placement of a child when a safe and suitable long-term placement is not available.

(c) The department shall collaborate with child-placing agencies to:

(1) develop procedures for the emergency placement of children; and

(2) increase the number of foster homes, foster group homes, agency foster homes, and agency foster group homes that are able to accept the emergency placement of children.

1        (d) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules governing  
2 the reimbursement of a foster home, a foster group home, an agency  
3 foster home, or an agency foster group home that accepts the  
4 emergency placement of a child.

5        SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.